

(b) Amendments to the Claims

Please amend Claims 1-8 as follows. A detailed listing of all the claims in the application is provided.

1. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a cylindrical ~~[[an]]~~ electrophotographic photosensitive member having a support and a photosensitive layer provided thereon; the process comprising:

a coating step of coating the surface of the support with a coating fluid to form a wet coating;

a drying step of drying the wet coating formed by the coating step, to form a dried ~~coating~~ coated film;

a cutting step of making a cut in the dried ~~coating~~ coated film formed by the drying step, in its peripheral direction ~~at a preset position~~; and

a removal step of removing, by jetting a gas, the dried ~~coating~~ coated film on its end side extending from the cut made by the cutting step,

wherein an angle  $\alpha^\circ$  formed between the direction of cutting and the surface of the dried coated film to be removed is  $85^\circ$  or more to less than  $180^\circ$ , and an angle  $\beta^\circ$  formed between the direction of gas jetting and the surface of the dried coated film to be removed is  $85^\circ$  or more to less than  $180^\circ$ .

2. (Currently Amended) The process for producing ~~[[an]]~~ a cylindrical electrophotographic photosensitive member according to Claim 1, wherein said gas is air.

3. (Currently Amended) The process for producing [[an]] a cylindrical electrophotographic photosensitive member ~~production process~~ according to Claim 1, wherein an angle  $\alpha^\circ$  formed between the direction of cutting and the surface of the dried ~~coating coated~~ film to be removed, ~~of the dried coating film~~ is  $90^\circ$  or more to less than  $180^\circ$ .

4. (Currently Amended) The process for producing [[an]] a cylindrical electrophotographic photosensitive member ~~production process~~ according to Claim 1, wherein an angle  $\beta^\circ$  formed between the direction of gas jetting and the surface of the dried ~~coating coated~~ film to be removed, ~~of the dried coating film~~ is  $90^\circ$  or more to less than  $180^\circ$ .

5. (Currently Amended) The process for producing [[an]] a cylindrical electrophotographic photosensitive member ~~production process~~ according to Claim 1, wherein an angle  $\alpha^\circ$  formed between the direction of cutting and the surface of the dried ~~coating coated~~ film to be removed, ~~of the dried coating film~~ and an angle  $\beta^\circ$  formed between the direction of gas jetting and the surface of the dried ~~coating coated~~ film to be removed, ~~of the dried coating film~~ satisfy the relationship of:

$$\alpha - 10 \leq \beta \leq \alpha + 80.$$

6. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) [[An]] A cylindrical electrophotographic photosensitive member comprising a support and a photosensitive

layer provided thereon; the electrophotographic photosensitive member being produced by a production process comprising:

a coating step of coating the surface of the support with a coating fluid to form a wet coating;

a drying step of drying the wet coating formed by the coating step, to form a ~~dried-coating~~ coated film;

a cutting step of making a cut in the ~~dried-coating~~ coated film formed by the drying step, in its peripheral direction ~~at a preset position~~; and

a removal step of removing, by jetting a gas, the ~~dried-coating~~ coated film on its end side extending from the cut made by the cutting step, wherein an angle  $\alpha$  formed between the direction of cutting and the surface of the dried coated film to be removed is 85° or more to less than 180°, and an angle  $\beta$ ° formed between the direction of gas jetting and the surface of the dried coated film to be removed is 85° or more to less than 180°.

7. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) A process cartridge comprising ~~[[an]]~~ a cylindrical electrophotographic photosensitive member having a support and a photosensitive layer provided thereon, and at least one means selected from the group consisting of a charging means, a developing means, transfer means and a cleaning means which are integrally supported, and being detachably mountable to the main body of an electrophotographic apparatus;

said electrophotographic photosensitive member being an electrophotographic photosensitive member produced by a production process comprising:

a coating step of coating the surface of the support with a coating fluid to form a wet coating;

a drying step of drying the wet coating formed by the coating step, to form a ~~dried-coating coated~~ film;

a cutting step of making a cut in the ~~dried-coating coated~~ film formed by the drying step, in its peripheral direction ~~at a preset position~~; and

a removal step of removing, by jetting a gas, the ~~dried-coating coated~~ film on its end side extending from the cut made by the cutting step, wherein an angle  $\alpha$  formed between the direction of cutting and the surface of the dried coated film to be removed, is 85° or more to less than 180°, and an angle  $\beta$ ° formed between the direction of gas jetting and the surface of the dried coated film to be removed, is 85° or more to less than 180°.

8. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) An electrophotographic apparatus comprising ~~[[an]]~~ a cylindrical electrophotographic photosensitive member having a support and a photosensitive layer provided thereon, a charging means, an exposure means, a developing means and a transfer means;

said electrophotographic photosensitive member being an electrophotographic photosensitive member produced by a production process comprising:

a coating step of coating the surface of the support with a coating fluid to form a wet coating;

a drying step of drying the wet coating formed by the coating step, to form a ~~dried-coating coated~~ film;

a cutting step of making a cut in the dried ~~coating~~ coated film formed by the drying step, in its peripheral direction ~~at a preset position~~; and

a removal step of removing, by jetting a gas, the dried ~~coating~~ coated film on its end side extending from the cut made by the cutting step, wherein an angle  $\alpha$  formed between the direction of cutting and the surface of the dried coated film to be removed, is 85° or more to less than 180°, and an angle  $\beta$ ° formed between the direction of gas jetting and the surface of the dried coated film to be removed, is 85° or more to less than 180°.